

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Richard F. Wrenn	Examiner:	David E. Odland
Serial No.:	09/669,396	Group Art Unit:	2662
Filed:	September 26, 2000	Docket No.:	200308239-1
Title:	Method and Apparatus for Distributing Traffic Over Multiple Switched Fibre Channel Routes		

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop: Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter the following Response to Examiner's Reasons for Allowance.
Remarks begin on page 2.

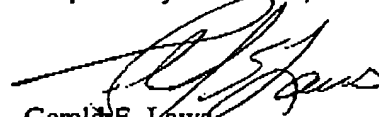
AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is believed that no extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's deposit account no. 08-2025.

REMARKS

In the Examiner's reasons for allowance, the Examiner states: "The prior art of record does not disclose or fairly teach a switch comprising a first port capable of receiving a frame, a routing table ... all of which is recited in independent claims 1, 11, and 14" Applicant agrees that the art of record does not teach or suggest the recited limitations. Applicant notes, however, that all of the quoted recitations do not appear in each of the independent claims. Limitations should not be "read" into the claims. Instead, Applicant submits that the present claims are allowable for at least the reason that the art of record does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of the claims as recited in the claims themselves. Each claim is allowable in light of the complete language of the claim, as well as equivalents. The Applicant therefore respectfully asserts that the scope of each claim as allowed is to be determined from the actual claim language, including all equivalents.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 6, 2004